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CITY BOROUGH OF EASTBOURNE

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD

*Local Education
Authority*

ANNUAL REPORT

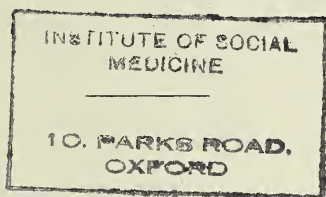
of the

School Medical Officer

for the year 1949

JOHN FENTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
School Medical Officer.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF EASTBOURNE



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STAFF

(a) Full-time Officers

School Medical Officer :

JOHN FENTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Deputy School Medical Officer :

E. MARY CUMMING, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (from 14.3.49).

Assistant School Medical Officer :

ROMA N. CHAMBERLAIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., C.P.H.

Senior Dental Officer :

MAURICE G. BERRY, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Assistant Dental Officer :

Miss F. H. BOWIE, L.D.S., B.D.S. (to 17.8.49).

School Nurses :

Miss A. L. MITCHELL, (Senior), S.R.N., S.C.M., T.A.Cert.(Hons.), H.V.Cert.

Miss J. C. M. BERK, S.R.N., S.C.M. Part 1, H.V.Cert.

Miss D. M. CLARKE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (from 1.1.49).

Mrs. L. FOSTER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss P. Ivory, S.R.N., S.C.M. Part 1, H.V.Cert. (from 24.1.49).

Mrs. S. M. JAMES, S.R.N., S.C.M. Part 1, H.V.Cert. (from 24.10.49).

Miss M. I. PARTRIDGE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Mrs. P. D. M. St. JOHN JONES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss P. A. THACKERAY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (from 1.2.49).

Mrs. E. BODLEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (to 13.1.49).

Miss M. E. NASH-STEER, S.R.N., S.C.M., T.A.Cert. (Temporary) (to 30.9.49).

Miss M. J. RAFFERTY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (to 9.1.49).

Miss M. F. WHEELER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (to 31.1.49).

(The School Nurses are also Health Visitors).

Physiotherapist :

Miss H. J. MURPHY, C.S.P., M.E., S.R.E. (to 24.6.49).

Clerks :

Miss B. DOUCH (Senior).

Miss V. R. KNIGHT (from 18.10.49).

Miss V. B. VINE, (to 20.10.49).

Miss M. K. WILSON (from 19.5.49 to 17.10.49).

Dental Attendants :

Miss D. S. JACKSON.

Miss M. K. WILSON (from 18.10.49).

Miss S. N. PARKER (to 20.10.49).

(b) Part-time Officers

Orthopaedic Consultant :

J. A. CHOLMELEY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.

Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore.

(to 5.10.49).

Physiotherapist :

Miss E. DIVES, M.C.S.P., Diploma of Chelsea College of Physical Education
(from 27.6.49 to 14.12.49)

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

E. V. OULTON, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.O.M.S. (to 14.4.49).

Orthodontic Specialist :

NORMAN GRAY, H.D.D., L.D.S., R.C.S.

Child Guidance Service :

DORIS KATHLEEN SMALL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.M.

Miss KATHLEEN BLYTHEN, B.A., Educational Psychologist (to 23.8.49).

H. P. HENRY, Psychiatric Social Worker (to 8.9.49).

Miss N. G. FULLER, Mental Health Worker (from 19.8.49).

Miss E. D. SMITH, Clerk.

Speech Therapist :

Mrs. K. HANSFORD, L.C.S.T.

April, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report, the forty-second in the Series, on the Health of the School Child in Eastbourne, and on the work of the School Health Department for the year 1949.

The results of the many medical inspections carried out during the year indicate quite definitely that the general health of our school children continues to be maintained at a satisfactory level.

The changes brought about by the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act, 1948, and their effects on the School Health Service became more evident throughout the year under review. The school child now, in common with all other members of the community, is entitled to the services of a family doctor, free dental treatment under the general dental services, as well as hospital and specialist treatment when required. It might well be asked whether there is any longer a need for a School Health Service. It is a fact that the new order has relieved local Education Authorities of the obligation of providing a number of Specialist Services. It is, however, quite certain that, at the present time, periodic and other medical inspections of school children can be provided for only through the medium of a service of the nature of the School Health Service. Dental inspection and treatment of school children can also, under present conditions, only be satisfactorily arranged by means of an adequately staffed School Dental Service. Special arrangements for the treatment of the many minor ailments from which school children suffer are necessary, and it would appear that these ailments can be most suitably dealt with in school clinics. Ascertainment of various categories of handicapped children and arrangements for their education must remain the function and responsibility of the Education Authority.

The Specialist Services taken over by the Hospital Management Committee include the Ophthalmic Clinic, which from April was held at the Princess Alice Hospital, and the Orthopaedic Clinic which was transferred at the end of the year. It was with no little regret we severed our happy connection with the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, which had for a number of years provided such an excellent service for our more seriously physically handicapped children.

The Orthopaedic Service suffered a severe loss by the death during the year of our whole-time physiotherapist. Miss Murphy, who had been in the service of the Authority for nearly twenty years, was a very able physiotherapist, and she was endowed with a personality which endeared her to the children and parents.

I welcome this opportunity of expressing to the Chief Education Officer and his Staff, to the Head Teachers, and indeed to all concerned with the welfare of our school children, my best thanks for the help at all times so readily given to my staff and to myself throughout the year. The good relationship existing between the department and the medical practitioners in the town, as well as with the professional and administrative staffs of the hospitals, helps very considerably in overcoming the drawbacks of divided responsibility and ensures that our children obtain full benefit from the various sections of the Health Services.

To you, Mr. Chairman, and to the members of the Education Committee, I express my gratitude for the wholehearted co-operation and support I again received from you.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN FENTON,

School Medical Officer.

I. STATISTICS

In January some 5,608 children were on the School registers and by the end of the year this number had increased to 5,663. The average attendance throughout the year was 5,151, a percentage of 91.17. At the end of the year, the children were in attendance at the various schools as follows :—

PRIMARY SCHOOLS	<i>Children</i>
Bourne Infants	183
Bourne Junior Mixed	322
Christ Church Infants	115
Christ Church Junior	200
Friday Street Infants and Junior Mixed	76
Grammar School Preparatory	52
Hampden Park Infants	160
Hampden Park Junior Mixed	309
High School Junior	171
Meads Junior Mixed and Infants	109
St. Andrew's Infants	158
St. Andrew's Junior Mixed	246
St. Joseph's R.C. School	167
St. Mary's Boys	233
St. Mary's Girls	171
St. Mary's Infants	286
St. Philip's Infants	152
Trinity District	121
	<hr/>
	3,231
SPECIAL SCHOOLS	
Open Air	60
St. Aidan's	44

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Bedewell	494
Bourne County	580
Friday Street	25
Hampden Park	214
St. Joseph's R.C.	59
Grammar	352
High School	361
Commercial	129
Technical	114
Total	5,663

2. STAFF

The vacancy for the post of Deputy School Medical Officer, occasioned by the resignation of Doctor J. R. D. Williams, was filled by the appointment of Doctor E. M. Cumming, who took up duty in March. The Assistant Dental Officer, Miss F. H. Bowie, left the service of the Authority in August. Miss J. D. Oswald, L.D.S., R.C.S., was appointed to fill the vacancy, but she was not in a position to take up duty till January of this year.

3. SCHOOL HYGIENE

The Sanitary Inspectors followed the established practice of periodically visiting the schools in their districts. Any sanitary defects were reported to the Chief Education Officer, who arranged for them to be dealt with.

4. MEDICAL INSPECTION

Periodic medical inspection of pupils was again carried out in the following groups :—

- (a) Every pupil admitted for the first time to a maintained school.
- (b) Every pupil attending a maintained Primary School on attaining the age of ten years.
- (c) Every pupil attending a maintained Secondary School in the last year of his or her attendance.
- (d) Every pupil attending a maintained school on attaining the age of seventeen years.

In the above prescribed groups, a total of 1,391 children were inspected, and 185 children were examined under the heading of "other periodic inspections". In addition, "special" examinations of children at the request of parents, teachers or school nurses, to the number of 1,110 were carried out. "Re-inspections" to the number of 3,389 were conducted in respect of all children who at a previous examination were found to have one or more defects.

Of the 1,576 children examined at periodic inspections, 203, a percentage of 12.88, were found to have one or more defects, other than dental disease or infestation with vermin, requiring treatment.

GENERAL CONDITION.—The general condition, that is, the general physical fitness, of children examined at periodic medical inspections, was recorded by the inspecting medical officers as follows :

GOOD	in 980, a percentage of 62.18
FAIR (SATISFACTORY)	in 561, „ 35.60
POOR	in 35, „ 2.22

5. SCHOOL NURSES

Summary of visits to schools and homes :—

Number of visits by nurses to schools	372
Number of visits by nurses to schools for medical inspection	157
Number of visits to homes of children by nurses	851

6. PERSONAL HYGIENE

The School Nurses carried out inspections of children for general cleanliness, at the commencement of each term. Children needing supervision in connection with personal hygiene were kept under close observation.

As a result of the 14,325 inspections made, verminous conditions were found in 41 cases and 296 children were found to have nit infestation. In all cases, the parents were interviewed and advised on methods of prevention and treatment. Where there was failure to comply with the instructions, arrangements were made for cleansing to be carried out in the Department's Cleansing Centre.

School children were treated at the Centre as follows :—

	<i>Children</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
Nit Infestation	49	104
Verminous conditions	8	36
	<hr/> 57	<hr/> 140

Washing the hair, preferably with a Sanitas Soap Shampoo, application of Cooper's L. & S. Cream (a D.D.T. preparation) and combing with a Sacker's comb, were found to be very effective treatment.

The vast majority of parents are entirely co-operative in this matter of personal hygiene. It seems, however, that there will always be the few who need constant supervision. It was necessary to pay special attention to some thirty-two families during the year.

7. CLINICS

(a) EXAMINATION CLINICS.—Special Examination Clinics were conducted weekly by the Deputy School Medical Officer at Avenue House, and monthly by the Assistant School Medical Officer at Acacia Villa Clinic (357, Seaside) and at Hampden Park Secondary School. One thousand and ninety-seven children made 2,266 attendances. The conditions for which the children attended were as follows :—

Disease of the Skin :					
Pediculosis	..	..	..	..	1
Scabies ..	..	..	..	..	3
Impetigo ..	..	..	..	..	11
Ringworm (body) ..	..	..	..	..	4
Other ..	..	..	..	..	88
Eyes :					
Vision ..	..	..	..	..	100
Squint ..	..	..	..	..	1
Other disease ..	..	..	..	..	77
Ears :					
Hearing ..	..	..	..	..	6
Otitis Media ..	..	..	..	..	6
Other ..	..	..	..	..	48
Nose and Throat ..	..	..	..	..	94
Cervical glands (non T.B.) ..	..	..	..	..	10
Speech Defect ..	..	..	..	..	12
Heart and circulation (including anaemia)	..	..	..	..	20
Lungs (non T.B.) ..	..	..	..	..	30
Diseases of gastro-intestinal tract ..	..	..	..	..	22
Nutritional disorders ..	..	..	..	..	10
General debility ..	..	..	..	..	99
Nervous system :					
Epilepsy ..	..	..	..	..	2
Other ..	..	..	..	..	18
Mental Conditions ..	..	..	..	..	20
Psychological disorders ..	..	..	..	..	24
Orthopaedic :					
Posture ..	..	..	..	..	9
Genu valgum and varum ..	..	..	..	..	5
Flat foot ..	..	..	..	..	11
Other ..	..	..	..	..	55
Developmental :					
Hernia ..	..	..	..	..	3
Other ..	..	..	..	..	2
Tuberculosis :					
Contacts ..	..	..	..	..	1
Bones and Joints ..	..	..	..	..	—
Glands ..	..	..	..	..	—
Rheumatism and Chorea ..	..	..	..	..	4
Infectious Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	9
Minor Injuries ..	..	..	..	..	167
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	174
Total ..					1,146

Nutrients and Medicaments supplied to children attending Clinics :—

Cod Liver Oil and Malt	..	1,985 Cartons (1 lb.)
Virol .. ..	..	1,426 Cartons (8 oz.)
Cod Liver Oil ..	..	76 Bottles (4 oz.)

Fersolate Tablets and Syrup Ferri Phosphate were also supplied.

(b) CHEST CLINIC.—This clinic was held at Avenue House on Thursday mornings. The cases and attendances of children of school age were as follows :—

				<i>Children</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
<i>Respiratory Tuberculosis :</i>					
New cases	..	..	..	1	1
Old cases	..	..	..	17	27
<i>Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis :</i>					
New cases	..	..	..	—	—
Old cases	..	..	..	13	25
<i>Contacts :</i>	..	..	..	114	161
<i>Observation Cases :</i>	..	..	..	51	115
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				196	329

One new case of respiratory tuberculosis and three cases of non respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year.

The three cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis were :—

Boy aged 12	T.B. Meningitis.
Girl aged 12	T.B. Glands of neck.
Girl aged 14	Mesenteric Glands.

(c) OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.—This Clinic was held at Avenue House up to April, when it was taken over by the Hospital Management Committee. Thirteen sessions were held at Avenue House, and seventeen at the Princess Alice Hospital. Three hundred and sixty-nine children made 432 attendances. One hundred and forty-two children were new cases and 227 were children for re-examination.

NEW CASES					
<i>Defect</i>					
Myopia	..	..	..	..	35
Hypermetropia	..	..	..	..	51
Squint	..	..	..	..	10
Astigmatism..	..	..	..	..	20
Inflammatory conditions	..	..	..	..	4
Other	..	..	..	..	2
No refractive error found	..	..	..	..	21
Congenital Cataract	..	..	..	..	1
					—
					144
					—
<i>Treatment</i>					
Glasses prescribed	..	..	..	..	73
Orthoptic treatment	..	..	..	..	5
Drops, lotions, etc.	..	..	..	..	3
Observation ..	..	..	..	..	53
No treatment necessary	..	..	..	..	11
					—
					145
					—

NOTE :—Two children suffered from two or more of the above defects. Three children had orthoptic treatment and glasses prescribed.

ORTHOPTIC CLINIC.—This Clinic continued to function at the Princess Alice Hospital.

(d) ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.—Sixty children made 99 attendances for examination by the Consulting Surgeon at his monthly clinic. The Deputy and Assistant Medical Officers examined 72 children, who made 79 attendances for minor orthopaedic disabilities.

Various forms of treatment prescribed were carried out by the Physiotherapist at Avenue House Clinic. In this connection, 153 children made 1,569 attendances.

Congenital Defects :

Multiple deformities	..	..	..	1
Pes valgus	..	..	..	1
Irregular toes	..	..	..	15
Hallux valgus	..	..	..	9
Deformity of chest	..	..	..	3
Hammer toes	..	..	..	2

Injuries to :

Knee	..	..	..	1
Ankle	..	..	..	1
Leg	..	..	..	2
Toes	..	..	..	1
Hands	..	..	..	1

Deformities of Legs and Feet :

Knock knees	..	..	..	2
Flat feet	..	..	..	43

Postural Defects :

Spine	..	..	..	42
Spine and flat feet	..	..	..	1
Scoliosis	..	..	..	6

Other Conditions :

Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	2
Hallux rigidus	..	..	..	4
Atonia leg muscles	..	..	..	1
Inflamed bunion	..	..	..	3
Asthma	..	..	..	10
Limited respiratory movement	4
Apophysitis os calcis	2
Constipation	2

Total	159
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Six children suffered from more than one defect.

Treatment

Massage	1
Infra-red	3
Faradism	..	..	..	7
Individual exercises	..	..	..	16
Class exercises	..	..	..	122
Splinting	..	..	..	2
Wedges only	..	..	..	2

ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT THERAPY

Sixty-one children made 1,242 attendances for Ultra Violet Light treatment for the following conditions :—

General debility	..	..	..	..	15
Nervous debility	..	..	..	..	2
Bronchitis (chronic)	..	..	..	..	6
Bronchial catarrh	..	..	..	..	1
Recurrent colds	..	..	..	..	9
Cervical adenitis	..	..	..	..	1
Asthma	..	..	..	..	14
Psoriasis	..	..	..	..	3
Acne	..	..	..	..	4
Boils	..	..	..	..	1
Styles	..	..	..	..	3
Anorexia	..	..	..	..	2
Total					61

(e) MINOR AILMENTS CLINIC.—A Minor Ailments Clinic was held daily at Avenue House Clinic. In addition, during term time, daily clinics were held at the Hampden Park Secondary School, at Acacia Villa and on alternate days at the Open Air School.

Number of individual children attending Clinics .. 1,701

Attendances :

Avenue House Clinic	..	..	1,651
Acacia Villa	..	..	587
Hampden Park	..	..	862
Open Air School	..	..	240
Total number of attendances	..	..	3,340
Total number of defects treated	..	..	1,771

MINOR AILMENTS TREATED

Eyes :

Blepharitis, styes and other disease of lids	57
Conjunctivitis	32
Foreign bodies and other eye ailments	67
	156

Ears :

Otitis	42
Otitis externa	24
Wax	31
	97

Skin :

Impetigo	69
Scabies and post-scabies irritation	16
Ringworm—body	5
Skin sepsis other than Impetigo	155
Boils and carbuncles	83
Other skin conditions, including chilblains, warts	218
	546

Injuries :				
Sprains and bruises, etc.	..	..	..	131
Cuts and abrasions	..	..	..	214
Other minor injuries	..	..	..	118
Burns	..	..	..	23
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	486
				— 972
				1,771

(In 1948, 1,469 children made 4,413 attendances for 1,491 defects).

The Minor Ailments Clinics were conducted by the School Nurses, but a number of children who attended these Clinics were from time to time referred for special examination to one of the medical staff.

(f) SPEECH THERAPY.—Four Speech Therapy Clinics were held weekly at Avenue House, and two sessions each month were devoted by the Speech Therapist to visiting the children's homes and schools.

Number of cases under treatment at beginning of				
year	..	..	..	19
New cases referred during the year	..	..	..	25
Number of clinic sessions	..	..	..	159
Number of attendances	..	..	..	682
Number of visiting sessions by Speech Therapist to				
Schools and homes of children	..	..	..	23
Number of cases discharged	..	..	..	15
Number of cases under treatment at the end of the				
year	..	..	..	22
Number of cases awaiting treatment at the end of				
the year	..	..	..	7
Defects treated :				
Deafness	..	..	..	2
Cleft Palate	..	..	..	1
Sigmatism (inability to pronounce "S")	..	..	..	5
Stammer	..	..	..	12
Dyslalia (defective articulation)	..	..	..	17
				— 37

Of the fifteen cases discharged, one case of deafness was fitted with a deaf aid after a course of lip reading and discharged with clear speech. Four cases of sigmatism and six cases of dyslalia were discharged with clear speech. One case of dyslalia attributed to low intelligence was discharged after making some improvement and another case of dyslalia who failed to complete the treatment was discharged for non-attendance. Two cases of stammering were discharged with good speech.

During the school clinic sessions, the following cases of children under the age of five years were also treated :

Deafness	1
Dyslalia	2
Cleft Palate	1
	<hr/>
	4
	<hr/>

These cases made a total of 72 attendances.

The two cases of dyslalia were discharged; one had made good progress, but left the district before treatment was completed; the other case was unable to continue treatment.

It is interesting to note that the average age of the cases referred during the year was lower than in previous years; since most cases of speech defect respond better to early treatment, this is an encouraging sign. With the exception of two cases, attendance at the clinics throughout the year was good.

8. DENTAL SERVICES

GENERAL SERVICES.—Forty sessions were devoted to periodic dental inspections and 4,438 children were seen in the following age groups :—

Age ..	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
No. ..	26	242	291	342	399	418	434	547	448	434	466	229	99	51	12	4,438

In addition, another group of children, to the number of 796, were seen at the special request of parents. Of the total of 5,234 children inspected, 3,047 were found to require treatment, a percentage of fifty-eight. At the 699 treatment sessions held, 2,443 children made 6,896 attendances for treatment as follows :—

Fillings :

Permanent Teeth	2,723
Temporary Teeth	255
	<hr/>
	2,978
	<hr/>

Extractions :

Permanent Teeth	368
Temporary Teeth	2,238
	<hr/>
	2,606
	<hr/>

Administrations of General Anaesthetics .. 1,163

Other Operations :

Permanent Teeth	4,106
Temporary Teeth	871
	<hr/>
	4,977
	<hr/>

ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT.—At the special weekly clinic session, 820 attendances were made by 136 children. At the end of the year, 25 children were waiting treatment.

Number of cases under treatment at the beginning of the year	..	..	..	..	103
New patients	..	..	..	..	33
Treatment completed	..	..	..	..	16
Left school and treatment not completed	..				2
Failed to complete treatment	..	..	..	..	20
Number of cases under treatment at end of year	..				98

In addition, 85 children who made 710 attendances, received orthodontic treatment at the ordinary clinics, and 28 children were fitted with dentures.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR DENTAL OFFICER. Mr. Berry writes :—

“During the year, 4,438 children were examined by the Authority’s dental officers at routine dental inspections carried out at the schools. These, together with the 796 special applications for treatment made a total of 5,234 children inspected.

Of these, 3,047, or 58 per cent. were referred for treatment. This is a slight improvement on the previous year, when 60 per cent. were referred for treatment, but the importance of regular inspection and treatment can be seen, however, by the treatment percentage figure, which has been steadily decreasing since regular inspection was resumed in 1946, when 85 per cent. were referred for treatment.

Among the 58 per cent. referred in the past year, the defects found were, in the greater proportion of cases, of a much less extensive nature than many of the gross carious lesions seen in previous years. From the point of view of the child patient, this is of particular importance, as the treatment of incipient and early caries is far less trying than the repair of a badly broken down tooth, and it is only by regular inspection that these defects can be disclosed in their early stages.

The interest and co-operation of the parents showed an encouraging response in an acceptance rate of 80 per cent., a figure well above the average for the whole country.

Routine inspections occupied 40 sessions, and 699 sessions were devoted to treatment. Two thousand, seven hundred and twenty-three fillings were inserted in permanent teeth and 255 in temporary teeth. Extractions numbered 2,606, and a general anaesthetic was administered in 1,163 cases. In addition, 28 children were fitted with artificial dentures, necessitated in most cases, not by dental caries, but by traumatic injury to the permanent teeth, and their subsequent removal.

In the orthodontic section, the pressure of work has been considerable. One hundred and thirty-six children made 820 attendances at the special weekly clinics, and to avoid accumulation of further orthodontic work, 85 children received orthodontic treatment at the ordinary general clinics, making 710 attendances. At the end of the year, 25 children were awaiting treatment for irregular and overcrowded teeth.

Now that constant advice and encouragement is being given to parents to have their children's teeth inspected from the age of two, it is to be hoped that this will develop a more comprehensive policy for the conservation of the temporary dentition, leading in time to a marked reduction in the number of cases of malocclusion."

9. CHILD GUIDANCE SERVICE

1. <i>Number of Clinic Sessions :</i>	..	..	..	135
2. <i>Number of cases :</i>				
Old	..	..	..	35
New	..	..	..	36
				— 71
3. A. <i>Referred by :</i>				
School Health Service..	..	..	..	18
Teachers	..	..	..	2
Parents	..	..	..	4
Probation Officer and Court	..	..	..	4
General Practitioners	..	..	..	3
Children's Officer	..	..	..	2
Other Agencies	..	..	..	3
				— 36
B. <i>Conditions for which referred :</i>				
Nervous disorders	..	..	..	9
Habit disorders	..	..	..	6
Behaviour difficulties	..	..	..	9
Educational retardation	..	..	..	6
Delinquency	..	..	..	6
				— 36
4. <i>Number of cases seen :</i>				
		<i>Number of</i>	<i>Number of</i>	
		<i>Children</i>	<i>Attendances</i>	
A. By Psychiatrist	..	..	71	339
B. By Psychologist				
(i) For estimation of I.Q.	..	..	33	33
(ii) For educational coaching	..	..	7	120
5. <i>Results of treatment :</i>				
Satisfactorily adjusted	..	..	5	
Much improved	..	..	8	
Slightly improved	..	..	4	
Still undergoing treatment	..	..	26	
Diagnosis only	..	..	17	
Withdrawn—Non co-operative	..	..	9	
Transferred	..	..	2	
			—	71
<i>Position at the end of year :</i>				
Diagnosed and advice given	..	..	17	
Treated and case closed	..	..	17	
Still under treatment	..	..	26	
Withdrawn—Non co-operative	..	..	9	
Transferred	..	..	2	
			—	71

WAITING LIST

In addition to the above there were eight cases awaiting investigation at the end of the year.

PSYCHIATRIST'S REPORT. Dr. Small writes :—

"It is with great satisfaction that we are able to report a marked reduction in the waiting list—eight as compared with 27 at the end of the previous year.

The resignation, in August, of Miss Blythen, the Educational Psychologist, was received with much regret. She had been associated with the Clinic for five years : much of the pioneer work was done by her, both inside the Clinic and in the wider field of propaganda amongst schools, parents' associations, etc.

Mr. J. Sellars was appointed Educational Psychologist on the 1st September, but, unfortunately, had to resign for domestic reasons on the 27th September. His successor had not been appointed at the end of the year.

Mr. Henry continued to carry out the psychiatric social work until the end of August. From that date the work has been undertaken by Miss Fuller, who in September took up duty as Mental Health Worker, in a full-time capacity for the Eastbourne Corporation. This arrangement has, in practice proved highly successful. The knowledge that she acquires in her work in the Health Department is of very great value in her duties in connection with Child Guidance."

10. EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN

Under the Byelaws regulating the employment of children, it is a condition of employment that a Certificate from the School Medical Officer is produced to the employer that such employment will not be prejudicial to the health or physical development of the child, and will not render him unfit to obtain proper benefit from his education.

In this connection, 84 children were examined and provided with the necessary certificates.

11. SCHOOL MEALS AND MILK

Mid-day meals were prepared and served as follows :—

Girls' High School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Grammar School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Bourne County Secondary School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Friday Street School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Junior Technical School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Open Air School	Kitchen Dining Room.
Hampden Park County Secondary	New Kitchen Dining Room, opened in January.
	A container service catered for children attending Hampden Park Infants' School.

St. Mary's Boys' School

Kitchen serving meals in school hall for children attending this school.

A container service catered for children attending St. Mary's Infants' School.

Meads School

New Kitchen Dining Room, opened in September.

Trinity District School

New Kitchen Dining Room, opened in September.

Alma Road Central Kitchen

Catered by container service for :
Bedewell Secondary School.
Bourne Junior and Infants' Schools.

Christ Church Junior and Infants' Schools.

Highfield Primary.

Meads Junior Mixed and Infants' Schools (until July).

St. Aidan's School.

St. Andrew's Junior and Infants' Schools.

St. Joseph's School.

St. Mary's Girls' School.

St. Philip's Infants' School.

Victory British Restaurant

Provided for pupils attending the Commercial School.

Hot mid-day meals to the number of 612,940, were served and of that total, 97,268, a percentage of 15.87 were provided free. In the previous year, of the 603,883 meals served, 100,551, a percentage of 16.65, were provided free.

The following table shows the number of children taking meals and milk in school on a given day in February, June and October.

(Figures in brackets are those for the previous year).

MEALS					MILK	
<i>Date</i>	<i>No. of Children in Schools</i>	<i>Free</i>	<i>Paid</i>	<i>Percentage taking meals</i>	<i>Total taking milk</i>	<i>Percentage taking milk</i>
		PRIMARY AND		SECONDARY D	DEPARTME	NTS
February	4,996	494	2,496	59.8% (59.8%)	4,425	88.5% (89.3%)
June	5,183	523	2,590	60% (58.5%)	4,614	89% (89.7%)
October	5,229	350	2,855	61.2% (61.9%)	4,675	89.4% (89.1%)

The income scale for free meals was revised in February and is now as follows :—

<i>Number in Family</i>	<i>Children were granted free meals where the income per head of the family after deducting rent, rates and insurance was the following amount or less</i>
Not exceeding 3	17s. per head.
4 or 5	16s. per head.
Exceeding 5	15s. per head.

Miss E. C. Mulcaster, Organiser of School Meals, writes :—

“During the year, three new Kitchen Dining Rooms were brought into use—at Hampden Park Secondary, Meads and Trinity District Schools. In November, Hampden Park Junior School removed to Highfield. This school has a temporary scullery and a classroom is used as a Dining Room; until the second part of the building has been completed, it will continue to be served from the Central Kitchen, Alma Road.”

12. PHYSICAL TRAINING

The Organiser of Physical Training reports :—

“The Schools are frequently visited by me, and I am satisfied with the conduct of the Physical Training, all teachers co-operating to bring the subject up to a very good standard. We are also fortunate in receiving a great deal of help from the Chelsea College of Physical Education. This, though primarily for the purpose of practice for the students, is extremely helpful and beneficial to the Schools, as new ideas are brought in and the lessons are given in a joyful and pleasing manner.

The majority of scholars are given a daily lesson of activity of one kind or another, *i.e.*, Physical Training, Games, Dancing or Swimming.

ORGANISED AND PLAYGROUND GAMES AND ATHLETICS

All pupils of the age of 11 and upwards as well as the top classes of the Primary Schools now have a weekly period on the Playing Fields, and in most cases within easy access of the Schools.

All Infants and Juniors below the top classes have their playing period in the playground.

The Games lesson, whether in the playground or playing field, is undoubtedly one of the most popular lessons of the whole curriculum.

The majority of Junior and Secondary Schools (Departments) hold their own Annual Sports meetings at which the standard of Athletics is very creditable.

SWIMMING

Again, this activity is in a very strong position; all 11+ scholars and all top classes of the Junior Departments (excepting two) have a period at the Baths throughout the Spring, Summer and Autumn. The two exceptions are due to the great distances to the Swimming Baths.

The swimming reaches a very good standard indeed, in fact, we are almost back to our pre-war standard, which was very high indeed.

Again, nearly all the Schools hold their own Annual Swimming Gala.

TEACHERS AS GRAND SUPPORTERS

The Teachers' Committees, *i.e.*, Football, Swimming, Sports and Athletics are very live bodies indeed. These Committees are purely voluntary and function with very gratifying results. I am deeply indebted to them for their wonderful co-operation.

There is in being a Senior Football League (11-15 years of age group) and a Junior League (below 11 years of age group), in both of which the standard of play is really good.

As the Organiser of Physical and Recreational Education I feel that, on the whole, the Physical and Recreational Welfare of the scholars of the Eastbourne Schools is extremely well catered for, notwithstanding the fact that more school playing fields are needed to cope with growing requirements."

13. PROVISION OF CLOTHING

Under Section 5 of the Education (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1948, eleven children being members of six families, were supplied with clothing by the Authority.

14. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifications of infectious diseases relating to children of school age were as follows :—

	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Diph- theria</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Erysi- pelas</i>	<i>Pneu- monia</i>	<i>Polio- Myelitis</i>
January ..	1	—	2	4	—	1	—
February ..	1	—	1	4	—	—	—
March ..	1	—	—	47	—	—	—
April ..	2	—	—	87	—	2	—
May ..	4	—	2	16	—	—	—
June ..	—	—	14	32	—	1	—
July ..	3	—	19	30	—	—	—
August ..	1	—	9	9	—	1	—
September	—	—	4	2	—	—	—
October ..	3	—	8	—	—	—	1
November ..	—	—	4	—	1	—	—
December ..	6	1	4	—	—	1	—
Totals ..	22	1	67	231	1	6	1

SCABIES.—Sixteen children of school age were found to be suffering from this complaint (18 in 1948). These cases were treated in the special Out-Patient Clinics as follows :—

Borough Sanatorium (1st January to 3rd April)

Cases 7 Attendances 14

Avenue House Cleansing Centre (from 4th April to 31st Dec.)

Cases 9 Attendances 18

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.—Twenty-five children between the ages of 5 and 15 were immunised by the staff of the Department, and two hundred and seventy-two children were given a reinforcing dose of immunising reagent. In addition, returns were made by General Practitioners of twenty-two immunisations by them and of reinforcing doses in thirty children.

The age groups were as follows :—

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Diphtheria Immunisation</i>		<i>Re-inforcing dose</i>	
	<i>Local Authority's Clinic</i>	<i>By Private Practitioner</i>	<i>Local Authority's Clinic</i>	<i>By Private Practitioner</i>
5-6	.. 14	1	97	—
6-7	.. 4	2	66	3
7-8	.. 1	—	34	—
8-9	.. 1	—	21	1
9-10	.. —	2	—	7
10-11	.. 2	2	} 54 Age 10 and over	41
11-12	.. 1	1		
12-13	.. 1	1		
13-14	.. —	3		
14-15	.. 1	14	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	25	26	272	52
	—	—	—	—

Immunisation records show that at the end of the year, 4,808 children between 5 and 15 years had been immunised :—

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Number</i>
5-6	527
6-7	544
7-8	509
8-9	422
9-10	423
10-11	558
11-12	474
12-13	473
13-14	438
14-15	444
	4,812

This represents 68.33 per cent. of the children in these age groups who have been immunised against Diphtheria. The Registrar General's estimated population of children in these age groups is 7,042.

The general School Medical Records indicate that of the 5,663 children on the school registers at the end of the year, 4,339, representing 76.62 per cent. of children attending the Local Authority Schools had been immunised.

The immunising reagent in general use was Alum Precipitated Toxoid and for older children Toxoid-Antitoxin Floccules.

15. DEATHS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

Four children of school age died during the year from the following causes :—

<i>Boy aged 5</i>	Drowning, due to capsizing of boat. Misadventure. Inquest.
<i>Girl aged 11</i>	Fractured skull, being knocked down by a motor car. Accident. Inquest.
<i>Girl aged 5</i>	Perforated Appendix.
<i>Girl aged 7</i>	Congenital malformation of heart.

16. HANDICAPPED PUPILS

Special Educational Treatment

The following handicapped children received, or were recommended for, special educational treatment :—

A. BLIND.—There were no blind children of school age on the Authority's register.

B. PARTIALLY SIGHTED

Girl born 19.12.35	Admitted to the Catholic School for the Blind, Liverpool, on 10th December, 1942.
Girl born 1.2.41	Admitted to the Catholic School for the Blind, Liverpool, on 20th July, 1943.
Boy born 1.8.40	Admitted to Drayton Manor School, near Tring, in 1947. Transferred to Dorton House, Dorton, Aylesbury, September, 1948.
Girl born 7.9.43	Admitted to Barclay School for Partially-Sighted, April, 1949.

C. DEAF

Girl born 30.5.36	Admitted to the Royal School for Deaf and Dumb Children, Margate, in September, 1944. Responsibility accepted from Surrey County Council, February, 1946.
Boy born 11.4.43	Admitted to the Royal School for Deaf and Dumb Children, Margate, on 6th September, 1948.

D. PARTIALLY DEAF

Boy born 6.6.42	At the end of the year was on the waiting list for admission to a Special Residential School.
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E. DELICATE

Of the forty-six children in attendance at the Open Air School at the beginning of the year, 37 came within the "Delicate" group, and 9 were "Physically Handicapped".

Thirteen boys and 25 girls were admitted for the following conditions :—

Asthma	..	..	..	7
Bronchitis	..	..	..	6
Debility—General	..	..	..	13
Nervous	..	..	..	2
Chronic Otitis and Debility	..	..	..	2
Subnormal nutrition	..	..	..	2
Nephritis	..	..	..	1
Skull defect, following fracture	..	..	..	1
Bronchiectasis	..	..	..	2
Chorea ..	..	..	..	1
Arthritis	..	..	..	1
				— 38

The average duration of attendance was twenty-four months.
The children who left during 1949 were placed as follows :—

Transferred to Ordinary Schools	..	..	18
Left for hospital treatment	..	..	3
Transferred to Residential School	..	..	1
Left district	..	..	2
			— 24

The number of children on the register at the end of the year was sixty :—

Delicate	..	..	..	53
Physically Handicapped	..	..	..	7

F. DIABETIC

Girl, born 18.7.35 Admitted to London County Council Hutton Residential School, Brentwood, Essex, on 15th April, 1943. (Responsibility accepted from London County Council, February, 1946).

Boy, born 30.6.34 Admitted to London County Council Hutton Residential School, Brentwood, Essex, on 25th October, 1943. (Responsibility accepted from Essex County Council, 13th June, 1949).

G. EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL

(a) ST. AIDAN'S DAY SPECIAL SCHOOL

		Boys	Girls
Number on Roll, January, 1949	..	28	12
Admissions	..	10	1
Leavers	..	3	4
Number on Roll, December, 1949	..	35	9

Of the eleven children admitted, seven were cases re-examined from the previous year, and one was accommodated for East Sussex County Council.

Of the three boys who left :—

One, from Dr. Barnardo's Home, was transferred to Kingston upon Hull.

One, aged 12 years, went to Newcastle.

One, aged 15 years, was notified to the Mental Deficiency Authority.

Of the four girls who left :—

Three took up employment.

One was admitted to the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, for treatment for spastic paralysis and had not returned to the school at the end of the year.

Fifteen children were referred to the Department by the Head Teachers for advice as to suitability for special educational treatment. Following examination, recommendations were made as follows :—

Three children were recommended for transfer to St. Aidan's. Nine children—no change recommended, but the progress of these children to be reviewed in six to twelve months.

One child was recommended for coaching by the Educational Psychologist.

One child was transferred to the Open Air School.

One child was recommended for Speech Therapy.

In addition, in the cases of two children examined at the request of parents, it was recommended that they be excluded from school and their progress reviewed in six to twelve months.

(b) RESIDENTIAL SPECIAL SCHOOLS

One boy, born 13.3.38 admitted to Besford Court Special School in April, 1948.

INEDUCABLE

Children notified during the year by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, under Section 57, Sub-Sections 3 and 5, of the Education Act, 1944 :—

Under Section 57 (3)	..	..	..	..	2
Under Section 57 (5)	..	..	..	..	1

H. EPILEPTIC

Boy, born 4.4.36 Admitted to St. Elizabeth's School, Much Hadham, on 8th October, 1946.

Boy, born 2.8.37 Admitted to Chalfont Epileptic Colony on 14th January, 1941.

Boy, born 20.11.35 Admitted to Lingfield Epileptic Colony, on 12th May, 1947.

I. MALADJUSTED

Boy, born 24.7.38 This boy was considered suitable for admission to a special residential hostel or school.

J. PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

The children in this group are different from those in the delicate class in that their physical handicap is more severe or more lasting, necessitating special educational treatment for the greater part of school life.

(a) DAY SCHOOLS

Girl, born 8.7.38 Admitted to the Open Air School on 3rd May, 1946.
Bronchiectasis

Girl, born 19.10.42 Admitted to the Open Air School on 16th January, 1948.
Severe kidney disease

Boy, born 11.12.38 Pseudo hypertrophicmuscular dystrophy	Attended a Junior School.
Boy, born 17.6.37 Multiple congenital deformities	Admitted to Open Air School on 28th November, 1944. (Admitted to Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore on 2.5.49 and discharged 28.11.49).
Boy, born 2.8.36 T.B. hip	Admitted to Open Air School on 13th December, 1943. (Admitted to Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, 17.1.49 and discharged 20.6.49).
Boy, born 19.9.42 Congenital heart disease	Admitted to the Open Air School on 12th September, 1947.
Girl, born 9.3.37 Spina bifida	Admitted to the Open Air School on 5th May, 1947.
Boy, born 4.9.38 Congenital heart disease	Admitted to the Open Air School on 1st September, 1943.
Boy, born 12.6.38 Osto Chondro Dystrophy	Admitted to the Open Air School on 5th September, 1944, and transferred to Bourne Secondary on 12th September, 1949.
Boy, born 8.10.37 Congenital heart disease	Admitted to the Open Air School on 14th May, 1945.

(b) RESIDENTIAL SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Boy, born 13.5.38 Severe chronic skin condition	Admitted to Goldie Leigh Hospital Special School, 2nd January, 1949.
Girl, born 8.12.38 T.B. spine	Admitted to Heritage Craft School, Chailey, in August, 1943. Responsibility accepted from East Sussex County Council on 5th July, 1948.
Girl, born 5.2.36 Valvular disease of heart	Admitted to Children's Residential School of Recovery, Liverpool, on 12th April, 1946.
Boy, born 12.3.33 Acute Poliomyelitis	Admitted to Heatherwood Hospital Special School, on 16th February, 1949.
Boy, born 7.11.45 Arthritis right knee	Admitted to Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, on 13th April, 1949 and discharged on 29th July, 1949.
Girl, born 8.12.46 Congenital dislocation of hip	Admitted to Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, on 26th April, 1949 and discharged on 23rd December, 1949.
Girl, born 12.6.42 Arthritis right hip	Admitted to Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore on 14th July, 1948 and discharged on 3rd May, 1949.

- Girl, born 15.6.44 Admitted to Tadworth Court Hospital for Spastic Paralysis Children, on 10th May, 1949 and discharged on 1st June, 1949.
- Girl, born 3.10.37 Admitted to Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, on 19th September, 1949 and discharged on 23rd December, 1949.

17. DIFFICULT AND PROBLEM FAMILIES

- (a) The School Nurses paid special attention to some 26 families.
- (b) THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

At my request, Mr. Banyard, the Local Inspector, paid 148 visits to eighteen families involving 65 children, 46 of whom were of school age. In addition, he paid 234 visits involving 126 children of whom 76 were of school age.

(c) JUVENILE CRIME.—I am indebted to the Chief Constable for the following particulars relating to juvenile crime.

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Sent to Approved Schools	..	..	..	1	—
Fined	..	..	..	2	—
Probation	..	..	..	15	3
Convicted—Discharged absolute	..	..	..	1	—
To care of Local Authority	..	..	..	1	—
Sent to Remand Home for one month	..	..	..	1	—
				—	—
				21	3
Cautioned	..	..	..	32	7
				—	—
Total Offenders	..	..	..	53	10
				—	—

(The total number of offenders in 1948 was 64 males and 5 females).

In addition to the above, two girls were brought before the Court as being in need of care and protection under the terms of Section 61, Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, and arrangements were made by the Probation Officer for them to be placed in suitable hostels.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

Year ended 31st December, 1949

TABLE I

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS
(INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

A. PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in prescribed Groups :—

Entrants	479
Second Age Group	487
Third Age Group	425
Total	1,391
Number of other Periodic Inspections	185
Grand Total	1,576

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	1,110
Number of Re-Inspections	3,389
Total	4,499

C. PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)

Group (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA (3)	Total individual pupils (4)
Entrants	14	54	62
Second Age Group	12	56	63
Third Age Group ..	26	34	56
Total (prescribed groups) ..	52	144	181
Other Periodic Inspections ..	4	19	22
Grand Total ..	56	163	203

TABLE II

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1949

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of defects		No. of defects	
		Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Skin	24	27	103	5
5	Eyes— <i>a</i> Vision ..	56	89	99	3
	<i>b</i> Squint ..	3	15	2	—
	<i>c</i> Other ..	3	3	78	—
6	Ears— <i>a</i> Hearing ..	3	7	7	—
	<i>b</i> Otitis Media	—	3	6	—
	<i>c</i> Other ..	4	4	48	—
7	Nose or Throat ..	13	75	95	1
8	Speech	7	12	12	—
9	Cervical Glands ..	5	35	10	—
10	Heart and Circulation	1	23	20	—
11	Lungs	9	35	30	—
12	Developmental—				
	<i>a</i> Hernia	3	9	4	—
	<i>b</i> Other	9	8	1	1
13	Orthopaedic—				
	<i>a</i> Posture	21	29	9	—
	<i>b</i> Flat Foot ..	23	37	11	—
	<i>c</i> Others	14	64	58	3
14	Nervous System—				
	<i>a</i> Epilepsy	—	1	2	—
	<i>b</i> Other	—	3	18	—
15	Psychological—				
	<i>a</i> Development ..	—	7	11	9
	<i>b</i> Stability	2	18	23	1
16	Other.. ..	30	63	428	63

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITIONS OF PUPILS
INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	479	369	77.04	104	21.71	6	1.25
Second Age Group ..	487	244	50.10	232	47.64	11	2.26
Third Age Group ..	425	259	60.94	154	36.24	12	2.82
Other Periodic Inspections..	185	108	58.38	71	38.38	6	3.24
Total	1,576	980	62.18	561	35.60	35	2.22

TABLE III
INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons..	14,325
(ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested.. .. .	337
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2) Education Act, 1944)	—
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3) Education Act, 1944)	—

TABLE IV
TREATMENT TABLES

GROUP I—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table III)

(a)	<i>Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year</i>
Skin—	
Ringworm—Scalp—	
(i) X-Ray treatment	—
(ii) Other treatment	—
Ringworm—Body	5
Scabies	16
Impetigo	69
Other skin diseases	456
Eye Disease	156
(External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital)	
Ear Defects	97
Miscellaneous (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	972
Total	1,771
(b) Total number of attendances at Authority's minor ailments clinics	3,340

GROUP II—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT
(excluding Eye Disease treated as Minor Ailments—Group I)

				<i>No. of Defects dealt with</i>
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint)	..			365
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	..	..	..	6
Total	..		..	<hr/>371 <hr/>

No of pupils for whom spectacles were :

(a) Prescribed	..	..	..	..	138
(b) Obtained	..	..	..	..	Information not available.

GROUP III—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT
Received operative treatment :—

				<i>Total number treated</i>
(a) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis				} Information not available
(b) for other nose and throat conditions				
Received other forms of treatment	..			

GROUP IV—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

(a) No. treated in hospital schools	..	..	9
(b) No. treated otherwise (<i>e.g.</i> , in clinics or out- patient departments)	..	..	153

GROUP V—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND SPEECH THERAPY
No. of pupils treated :—

(a) Under Child Guidance arrangements	..	71
(b) Under Speech Therapy arrangements	..	37

TABLE V
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—				
(a) Periodic age groups	..	..	..	4,438
(b) Specials	..	..	..	796
				<hr/>
(c) TOTAL (Periodic and Specials).	..	..	..	5,234
				<hr/>
(2) Number found to require treatment	..	..	..	3,047
(3) Number actually treated	..	..	..	2,443
(4) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	..	..	..	6,896
(5) Half-days devoted to :—				
(a) Inspection	..	..	..	40
(b) Treatment	..	..	..	699
				<hr/>
Total (a) and (b)	..	..	..	739
				<hr/>
(6) Fillings :				
Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	2,723
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	255
				<hr/>
Total	..	..	..	2,978
				<hr/>
(7) Extractions :				
Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	368
Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	2,238
				<hr/>
Total	..	..	..	2,606
				<hr/>
(8) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction				
..	..	..	..	1,163
(9) Other Operations :				
(a) Permanent Teeth	..	..	..	4,106
(b) Temporary Teeth	..	..	..	871
				<hr/>
Total (a) and (b)	..	..	..	4,977
				<hr/>

